




**MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Bureau of Emergency Medical Services  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, Mississippi 39215**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 15, 2009

**TO:** All Mississippi Licensed Ambulance Services

**FROM:** Alisa Williams, Director   
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

**SUBJECT:** KKK-1822 Specifications for Ambulances

As emergency services providers, you are probably familiar with the Federal Spec KKK-A-1822 for ambulances. The General Services Administration KKK-A-1822 Federal Specification for the Star-of-Life Ambulance reflects the minimum requirements for ambulances purchased by the federal government and is accepted as a standard for ambulance design in Mississippi (Mississippi EMS Laws, Rules and Regulations April 2009 104: Vehicle Standards). The most current version is the E revision, which went into effect in June 2002. Preparations are well under way for Revision F.

According to Mississippi law, before a vehicle can be operated as an ambulance, its licensed owner must apply for and receive an ambulance permit. Part of the process includes an inspection and a determination by the department that the vehicle meets all requirements as to vehicle design, sanitation, construction, medical equipment and supplies set forth in the rules and regulations.

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services has received inquiries regarding what type of engine meets these standards (i.e. the use of gasoline engines in lieu of diesel engines). Mississippi EMS Laws Rules and Regulations state, "All new ambulance vehicles, before being issued an original ambulance permit as authorized by Mississippi Code 41-59-23, shall conform to current Federal Specification 'Star-of-Life Ambulance' as published by the General Services Administration, Specification Section. Ambulances that were constructed prior to the implementation of the current Federal Specifications shall conform to the applicable Federal Specifications that were in effect at the time of original construction. There are exceptions included in rules and regulations including, but not limited to, height, color and paint finish." The owner shall show proof of certification (over and beyond the KKK-A-1822 decal) by the General

Services Administration that the vehicle meets the specifications required. Upon receipt of the information, the BEMS inspector will begin the permit process.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact this office at 601.576.7380.

Stay safe.